



Frequently Asked Questions for Parents

What is Alaska Measures of Progress?

Alaska Measures of Progress (AMP) is the new Alaska assessment for students in grades 3-10. AMP replaces the Standards Based Assessments (SBA).

AMP is aligned to the State of Alaska English language arts and math standards which were adopted in 2012. Like the SBAs, students will take the AMP test to help determine their progress over the course of the year.

The AMP assessment will take place in the spring of each school year and will have two subtests, English language arts and math. Although the assessment is not timed, each subtest will take most students between 90-150 minutes.

How is AMP administered?

AMP is a computer-based assessment, whereas SBAs were paper and pencil.

When do students take AMP?

Since students will be using technology to complete AMP, the spring testing schedule is different than in prior years. Students will test during a 5-week window with each grade testing during specific weeks.

Parents can use the schedule below to plan their family calendar. **Attendance during the test is very important.** Within this testing window, principals will craft the schedule for their building. Parent questions about scheduling should be directed to their child's school principal.

AMP State Testing Window	
<i>Grades</i>	<i>Designated testing weeks</i>
3 and 7	March 30 – April 10
4 and 8	April 6 – April 17
5 and 9	April 13 – April 24
6 and 10	April 20 – May 1

Will there be practice tests?

Students will have unlimited access to technology practice tests in early winter to gain familiarity with the new test format and question types.

What if my child is unskilled at using a computer?

The district has a keyboarding curriculum program called Keyboarding Without Tears. This program is available to students in grades 2-4 and uses effective game-based lessons to familiarize students with keyboarding and basic computer manipulation skills.



How can I help my child be successful?

Parents are encouraged to connect with their child's teacher to learn about what classroom activities are occurring to prepare for AMP and what they can do at home to prepare for the assessment. Parents can also help by ensuring students get a good night's sleep the night before testing and eat a healthy, filling breakfast in the morning. Positive reinforcement and encouragement also helps students feel confident to test.

How quickly will test scores be released?

The State of Alaska does not anticipate they will release scores until after the school year ends. ASD will provide guidance to schools and parents as information becomes available.

What about science?

Students in grades 4, 8, and 10 will take the Alaska Science Standards Based Assessment on March 24 and the makeup day will be March 25. Science remains a paper and pencil test.

Where can I get more information on AMP?

Parents should direct questions to their child's school.